Department of Economic and Community Development State Historic Preservation Office

Historic Preservation Council Meeting February 6, 2013 One Constitution Plaza 2nd Floor Hartford, Connecticut

Minutes

PRESENT: Sara Nelson, Chair; Nick Bellantoni, Charlene Cutler; Margaret Faber; Wilson Faude; Karen

Gilvarg; Katherine Harris; Katherine Kane, Kathleen Maher, Jack Robbins (arrived at 9:51 am);

Norma Williams

STAFF: Kip Bergstrom; Julie Carmelich; Susan Chandler; Mary Dunne; Daniel Forrest, Todd Levine,

Laura Mancuso; Stacey Vairo

ABSENT: Walter Woodward

1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

The meeting was called to order by Chair Nelson at 9:33am. Chair Nelson welcomed new staff member Todd Levine who began on January 25th. Mr. Levine was hired as an Environmental Reviewer. His secondary duties include the Connecticut Freedom Trail and the Rochambeau Trail.

2. REVIEW OF PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES

Chair Nelson reviewed the public comment procedures.

3. CODE OF CONDUCT/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Chair Nelson read the Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest statement. Council members and staff reported the following potential conflict of interest:

Kathleen Maher (HPC): Forlorn Soldiers Katherine Harris (HPC): Indian Hill Cemetery

Todd Levine (Staff): Connecticut Barn Program

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Maher, seconded by Dr. Bellantoni to approve the minutes of January 9, 2013.

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Missing information for CT Explored grant amount was noted. Motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Y-6; N-0; Abstained: Chair Nelson, Ms. Williams, Ms. Cutler and Ms. Gilvarg)

5. REPORT OF COMMITTEES – no reports

6. NOMINATIONS TO THE STATE REGISTER

A. Wilbur Benham Farm, Hamden, CT

Motion by Dr. Harris, seconded by Dr. Faber.

The Historic Preservation Council votes to list the Wilbur Benham Farm, 309 Gilbert Avenue, Hamden, Connecticut, on the State Register of Historic Places.

(Y-9; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

B. Indian Hill Cemetery, Middletown, Connecticut

Dr. Harris left the room at 9:43 am.

Motion by Dr. Bellantoni, seconded by Ms. Maher.

Augie DeFrane and Jan Cunningham spoke in favor of the application.

The Historic Preservation Council votes to list the Indian Hill Cemetery, 383 Washington Street, Middletown, Connecticut

(Y-8; N-0; Recused: Dr, Harris; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

Dr. Harris returned to the room at 9:48 am.

C. Kensington United Methodist Church, Berlin, Connecticut

Motion by Ms. Maher, seconded by Mr. Faude.

Fran Wynn spoke in favor of the application.

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The Historic Preservation Council votes to list the Kensington United Methodist Church, 107 Hotchkiss Street, Berlin, Connecticut, on the State Register of Historic Places.

(Y-9; N-0; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

Dr. Robbins arrived at 9:51 am.

D. New Canaan Town Hall, New Canaan, Connecticut

Motion by Ms. Maher, seconded by Dr. Harris.

Tod Bryant, Mimi Findley, Rose Rothbart and Helen Higgins spoke in favor of the application.

The Historic Preservation Council votes to list the New Canaan Town Hall, 77 Main Street, New Canaan, Connecticut, on the State Register of Historic Places.

(Y-10; N-0; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

E. Forlorn Soldier, Hartford, Connecticut

Ms. Maher left the room at 10:02 am.

Motion by Ms. Gilvarg, seconded by Dr. Bellantoni.

The Historic Preservation Council votes to list the Forlorn Soldier, 119 Airport Road, Hartford, Connecticut.

It was noted during the presentation that the monument is proposed to be relocated from the present site to a new indoor location. It was clarified that the State Register, unlike the National Register, has no specific provisions regarding the relocation of resources. Listed properties may be moved without jeopardizing their official status.

(Y-9; N-0; Recused: Ms. Maher; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

Ms. Maher returns to the room at 10:06 am.

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Connecticut's Agricultural Heritage: Multiple Resource

Mr. Levine left the room at 10:06 am.

Motion by Dr. Faber, seconded by Mr. Faude.

The Historic Preservation votes to list the Connecticut's Agricultural Heritage Multiple Property Documentation Form, Context Statement and 20 sites (as shown below), on the State Register Historic Places.

- 1. Barns Context Statement
- 2. 57 Miller Road, Burlington
- 3. 7 Pine Street, Cornwall
- 4. 245 Main Street, Deep River
- 5. 62 Atwater Avenue, Derby
- 6. 42 Rye Street, East Windsor
- 7. 176 Lovely Street, Farmington
- 8. Old Barn Lane/Durham Road (Route 77), Guilford
- 9. 524 Brooksvale Avenue, Hamden
- 10. 890 Evergreen Avenue, Hamden
- 11. 15 Spicer Hill Road, Ledyard
- 12. 7 Allen Road, Lisbon
- 13. 20 Barn Hill Road, Monroe
- 14. 485 Elm Street, Monroe
- 15. 1 Old Newtown Road, Monroe
- 16. 34 Sammis Street, Norwalk
- 17. 61 East Village Road, Shelton
- 18. 606 Walnut Tree Hill, Shelton
- 19. 42 Highland Terrace, Stratford
- 20. 272 West Street, Vernon
- 21. 124 Compo Road South, Westport

Chair Nelson requested that the number of properties considered as any single agenda item be limited to 10 properties and that an executive summary be provided by the applicant that provides a specific contextual overview for the properties under consideration. Additionally the applicant will provide overview image for each property that can be used for presentation at Council meetings.

Council members commended the depth and breadth of the information provided on each property and asked if the nomination forms will be made publically available as a research tool? CT Trust will upload all information to ctbarns.org.

Y-10; N-0; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

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14. REPORT ON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE ACTIVITIES

Dr. Bellantoni left the meeting at 10:37 am.

Kip Bergstrom reported that the Governor's office issued a freeze on all Personal Service Agreements (PSAs), therefore the PSA for the historic preservation and arts consulting services by Voladizo, LLC is on hold. Voladizo has offered to do some of the consulting service on a pro-bono basis; the office hopes to use some of our grant program as a vehicle to fund the consultants work. DC Bergstrom expressed hope that the Department will be able to move forward with the PSA later in the year. While the Culture and Tourism's Advisory Committee will serve as a sounding board for the work of the consulting teams, the Council will be asked to review the reports and DC Bergstrom invited Council members to attend the March 11th Advisory Committee meeting

DC Bergstrom also informed members that a report has been completed by Voladizo on the use of Connecticut's Tax Credits. This report will be shared and discussed at a future Historic Preservation Council meeting. Council members are interested to learn if the report included data subsequent to the 2011 expansion of the Tax Credit program

In addition to the use of Tax credits, Voladizo will provide training to the staff on Historic Preservation law.

7. HISTORIC DISTRICTS/PROPERTIES

A. 25 Avery Place, Westport, CT

Motion by Dr. Harris, seconded by Ms. Cutler.

The Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend approval of the study report submitted by the Westport Historic District Commission for the proposed Historic Property, 25 Avery Place, in Westport, CT.

(Y-9; N-0; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

8. STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT

D. Survey and Planning Grant

Motion by Ms. Williams, seconded by Dr. Faber.

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The Historic Preservation Council votes to recommend the award of a Survey and Planning Grant, funded by the Community Investment Act, to the below-listed applicant in the amount shown. All grant guidelines and state requirements shall be met by the below-listed applicant upon receipt of a grant as administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Applicant: Finnish American Heritage Society

Project: Survey project under "Our Places, Our Stories" funding initiative

Grant: \$30,000.00

A motion was presented by Mr. Faude, seconded by Dr. Robbins to table Item 8D to the March 2013 Historic Preservation Council meeting.

(Y-9; N-0; Abstained: Chair Nelson)

9. PROTECTION OF THREATENED PROPERTIES

A. Andrews-Olney House, 116-118 North Main Street, Southington

Helen Higgins reported that a settlement has been reached to preserve the Andrews-Olney House in Southington.

- **10. PRESERVATION RESTRICTIONS** no business
- 11. **ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVES** no business

12. PROGRAMS REVIEW AND DEVELOPMENT

Chair Nelson reported that this standing business item has been created to provide opportunities for the council and staff to review existing and developing programs. The intention is to ensure a forum for discussion of priorities and "best practice." Staff will also share the end products of previously approved grants so that their success may be evaluated.

Julie Carmelich made a power point presentation on the proposed new programs and priorities for fiscal year 2014. Areas to be considered for funding include "mothballing" abandoned properties, preservation planning for mill properties, encouraging innovative preservation initiatives, and promoting placemaking activities that combine arts and historic preservation.

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Ms. Williams left the meeting at 11:29 am.

Ms. Cutler left the meeting at 11:51 am.

Ms. Gilvarg left the meeting at 11:52 am.

13. **REPORT ON MUSEUM PROPERTIES** – Karin Peterson

Please refer to Report on Museums, submitted by Karin Peterson, Museum Director.

15. **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

16. <u>LIAISON WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE AGENCIES (FOR THOSE PRESENT)</u>

- **17. OLD BUSINESS** no business
- **18. NEW BUSINESS** no business

19. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made, and moved. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 am.

Next Council Meeting

The next Historic Preservation Council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 9:30 am, One Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT.